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Technology Firm Expands in Harrisonburg

Harrisonburg, VA – Ted Byrd, Mayor of Harrisonburg, today announced that a local education technology business, **Approved Colleges, LLC**, has signed a lease to expand in downtown Harrisonburg and has committed to adding at least 10 new full-time positions within the next two years. Approved Colleges is an Internet education and marketing services provider focused on the online education market. This rapidly growing business also offers technical solutions to colleges and universities.

Approved Colleges plans to occupy the newly renovated space at 126 West Bruce Street by January 2014. The company is rapidly outgrowing its current location at 111 East Market Street. Tony Huffman, President, has committed to grow his company's workforce from nine full-time employees to at least 19 full-time positions within the next two years. As a result, Approved Colleges has been certified by the City of Harrisonburg as a qualified business within the Downtown Technology Zone.

"Harrisonburg is so pleased to partner with Approved Colleges as this innovative technology business grows and expands. We will work hard to keep the talent pipeline full for Approved Colleges and all Harrisonburg employers," said Harrisonburg Economic Development Director Brian Shull. "We are looking forward to this company's continued investment in Harrisonburg."

"We are excited about this move and the growth of our organization. Approved Colleges serves a national consumer base of students, schools and corporate partners but Harrisonburg is definitely home," said Approved Colleges President Tony Huffman. "Our staff is delighted with the prospect of our new space and we look forward to working hand in hand with the City of Harrisonburg to see that prosperity grows downtown lock-step with our company."

"Harrisonburg is indeed fortunate to have Approved Colleges as a corporate citizen and neighbor," said Mayor Byrd. "We are glad this business leader continues to grow in our community and we celebrate this exciting announcement with the Approved Colleges team."

More information about Approved Colleges is available at www.ApprovedColleges.com and to learn more about Economic Development in Harrisonburg, visit www.HarrisonburgDevelopment.com.

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